

brings together different School Board leaders to communicate ideas that will lead to a higher level of education for students, parents, and teachers. He also serves as a member of the TASB Legislative Advisory Council, and TASB School Board Advisory network.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to thank Harlandale Independent School District Board President Joshua J. Cerna for all he has done in my community.

#### TRIBUTE TO DAWN STALEY

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2005*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dawn Staley, a three-time Olympic and World Championship gold medalist who is also the outstanding coach of the Temple University women's basketball team. The team, the Temple Women's Owls, just last week captured the Atlantic Ten Conference NCCA tournament championship. The Owls team has won a school record 27 games which includes the last 24 which represents the longest current winning streak for any Division I basketball team, men's or women's.

As a member of the 2004 U.S. Olympic team Ms. Staley was voted by other U.S. team Olympic captains to carry the flag and lead the U.S. delegation into the coliseum, in Athens, Greece. A fixture on U.S. basketball teams since the 1989 Junior World Championship, she competed in the old American Basketball League (ABL) from 1997–1999 where she was a two-time all ABL honoree. She is also just one of three University of Virginia Cavaliers to have their number retired. She twice was named National Player of the Year, during her junior and senior seasons at UVA.

Born in North Philadelphia, as a young girl Ms. Staley played basketball with the boys as a way of staying out of trouble. She attended Dobbins High School and the University of Virginia, where she was all-American. As a sports phenomenon she strives to be the role model that she says she was in search of as a child. In 1996 she created the Dawn Staley Foundation whose mission is to create a future of hope for at-risk youth by providing opportunities to help them realize their dreams and become productive and responsible citizens. Because of her efforts to give back to her community she was awarded the 1998 American Red Cross Spectrum Award and she also received the 1999 WNBA Entrepreneurial Spirit Award.

Dawn Staley is an outstanding athlete, coach and inspiration. She is a champion in the truest sense of the word.

#### RECOGNIZING TOM HARPOOL FOR HIS ENDLESS COMMUNITY SERVICE

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Tom Harpool, from Denton, Texas,

in the heart of the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his dedicated service to the community.

Tom Harpool makes helping his community a high priority in his life. He has spent so much of his time dedicated to assisting others in throughout the community. From education to banking, Tom Harpool has made a difference in our lives.

In 1954, Mr. Harpool began the first of six terms on the Denton Independent School District Board of Trustees serving as its board president from 1969 until 1973. Mr. Harpool has also been a part of the United Way of Denton County, Boy Scouts of America, 4-H Club and Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church for years. In addition, Mr. Harpool has served on the boards of a local bank and savings & loan before becoming a board member of the Upper Trinity River Authority.

In his own, Mr. Harpool has become a "Master Gardener" and enjoys sharing this hobby with the community through a gardening organization. He has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club for over 50 years and dutifully served on their board. Mr. Harpool has even dabbled in politics by being an active supporter of many candidates in both local and national races.

I am proud to represent Tom Harpool—a man who has given so much back to his community. Mr. Harpool's advice, council and support to the community, whether directly or indirectly, over the years, are certainly something for which to be thankful. I am grateful that can represent such wonderful citizens like Mr. Harpool.

#### TRIBUTE TO TEMPLE BETH JACOB ON THE OCCASION OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2005*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Temple Beth Jacob as it celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding. As the oldest congregation on the San Francisco Peninsula, Temple Beth Jacob stands as a testament to the long tradition of involvement of the Jewish community in the religious and public life in the Bay Area.

Founded in 1930, Temple Beth Jacob was the first Jewish religious institution created between the cities of San Francisco and San Jose. Its membership today is burgeoning with a vibrant congregation of more than 450 families from throughout the Peninsula to worship, to learn, and to strengthen both the Jewish community and the Bay Area community as a whole.

The congregation is led by Rabbi Nathaniel Ezray, who is now in his tenth year as the head of this congregation. Over the years, he's demonstrated a sincere commitment to translating the lessons of faith into actions that will benefit the community. In a 1995 interview, he said, "What's compelling for me is the social justice of Judaism. I want our congregation to respond together to domestic vio-

lence, AIDS, black-Jewish relations. My passion is teaching, but the pulpit allows me the opportunity to teach in many different ways and to create meaning and relevance." He lives with his wife, Mimi, and their daughter, Emily, and son, Ethan, in Redwood City.

In the decades before Rabbi Ezray began at the synagogue, Rabbi H. David Teitelbaum led the congregation at Temple Beth Jacob for 38 years. Under his leadership, the congregation grew from only 100 active families to its present size of nearly four times that number. A longtime advocate for civil rights, Rabbi Teitelbaum traveled to Selma, Alabama in the 1960's to march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., believing that the history of persecution of the Jewish people creates in them a special obligation to protect the human rights of all. He continues to serve as a beacon for the community and his former congregation in his current role as Executive Director of the Board of Rabbis of Northern California.

Temple Beth Jacob has a long tradition of coordinating with other religious institutions in the Bay Area to provide vital services to the community at large. In addition to providing a school and a pre-school to the community, Temple Beth Jacob's efforts have helped to house the homeless through the Interfaith Homeless Network and feed the hungry through the Urban Ministry's "Breaking Bread" program. They are annual cosponsors of the Martin Luther King observance in Redwood City, and have hosted the event over the years. All told, Temple Beth Jacob is a model of dedicated community action.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to honor Temple Beth Jacob as it celebrates its 75th anniversary. After three quarters of a century, Temple Beth Jacob remains a source of pride for the Peninsula, and promises to be a center of our community for decades to come.

#### UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA ENERGY DIALOG

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2005*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, much attention has been paid to the recent conversations President Bush and President Putin have had about democracy. Less attention has been paid to their other discussions regarding market economics, supply and demand, and U.S. energy security.

Although there are varying ideas in American political discourse about the proper role of government, in the post-September 11th world there can be no disagreement that our government's main concern is security of American citizens. National security discussions usually focus on threats to public safety, but I would like to call attention to a less-noticed facet of American security: the importance of our energy security. One of the great strengths of our nation is our access to affordable, reliable energy. Safeguarding that energy security means ensuring that access to energy continues.

In earlier Administrations, energy policies concentrated on lowering the United States'